

**Janis Kozlowski:** Can I ask you a few more questions about the Aleutians?

**Joseph D. Hutchison:** Sure.

**Janis Kozlowski:** What islands did you actually serve on there?

**Joseph D. Hutchison:** What islands?

**Janis Kozlowski:** Yes.

**Joseph D. Hutchison:** I was on Adak mostly. And then we went down to Amchitka for a month. And then we went back to Adak. And then we were the first bomb group to be assigned to Shemya. Larry Reineke, our intelligence officer, was pulling weeds and stuff down there; clearing room for tents. And I thought for a long time that we were the first B-24, or first four engine plane to land on Shemya. But, he told me later that there was at least one other plane that had beat us to being the first plane on Shemya.

**Janis Kozlowski:** You still got in there pretty early. So did you sleep in tents the whole time you were in the Aleutians?

**Joseph D. Hutchison:** No. In fact, the only time I was sleeping in tents on the Aleutians was on Amchitka, and that was a mess. But, on Adak they had already had Quonset huts up, so we had a Quonset hut there. And on Shemya, they had a new thing, which was actually the nicest thing I had. It was the size of a tent, but it was shaped like a Quonset hut; I forget what they called them [Janeway Hut]. But it was a fabric, kind of a quilted cover that that fit over this form. And then it had a little bitty stove in the middle - a kerosene stove.

**Janis Kozlowski:** So was that the best quarters you had then?

**Joseph D. Hutchison:** Oh yeah, they were nice. It was just little, for eight man, tent kind of thing.

**Janis Kozlowski:** I don't recall seeing a picture of those, I'll have to take a look and see if I can find one.

**Joseph D. Hutchison:** I forget what they call them. But they were really nice. The inside was white. And we didn't have electricity; a candle would light up the inside so you could read - because of the white walls.

**Janis Kozlowski:** How was the rest of the accommodations, like food and recreation and that kind of thing? What do you remember?

**Joseph D. Hutchison:** Well, I can't complain about any of that. Well, recreation - about the only thing was, they had some skeet shooting down on the beach at Adak that I went in. But, most of the time, [it] was just playing solitaire.

**Janis Kozlowski:** Were there guys that were depressed, or had poor morale because of the lack of things to do?

**Joseph D. Hutchison:** Well, I actually didn't run into anything like that. I heard about them, but ... things were pretty well under control by the time we showed up there.

**Janis Kozlowski:** But, did you say that you were there; you got to the Aleutians before the bombing of Dutch Harbor?

**Joseph D. Hutchison:** No.

**Janis Kozlowski:** Oh, no. OK.